appreciate without departing from the scope and/or spirit of the invention. The information processing apparatus according to this embodiment does not necessarily include the communication device **106**.

[**0079**] Next, a description will be given of exemplary, non-limiting items of information that may be selectively displayed on the display device **105** in this embodiment. The items of information to be selectively displayed on the display device **105** in this embodiment are stored in advance in the HDD **103** of the information processing apparatus in FIG. **1**. Each item of information has, for example, three parameters and, in the event that one or more of the parameters differ in value, it is considered a different item of information. A non-limiting example of information having such a configuration is RGB data.

[**0080**] FIG. **2** is a view schematically showing a configuration of the items of information to be selectively displayed on the display device **105** in this embodiment. In FIG. **2**, small black circles indicate individual items of information. X, Y and Z spatial coordinates are allocated to corresponding parameters configuring each of the items of information, and thereby each of the items of information can be perceived as a point in a three-dimensional space, and has a mutual three-dimensional relationship.

[**0081**] Each of dimensions is defined as a relation criterion that relates one of the items of information to another, and therefore, in an x-dimensional relation criterion, the values of parameters corresponding to X differ while the values of parameters corresponding to Y and Z are the same. In a y-dimensional relation criterion, the values of parameters corresponding to Y differ while the values of parameters corresponding to Z and X are the same. In a z-dimensional relation criterion, the values of parameters corresponding to Z differ while the values of parameters corresponding to X are the same in value.

[**0082**] Also, the closer the values of the parameters corresponding to X, Y and Z are, the more similar in contents the individual items of information are. That is, when items of information having the same x-dimensional relation criterion are compared, the smaller a difference in value between the parameters corresponding to X, the closer in contents the items of information are. Items of information adjacent to each other in FIG. **2** have a slight difference between their contents, while items of information located in distant positions from each other in FIG. **2** have a great difference between their contents.

[**0083**] Next, a description will be given of a display mode of items of information on the display device **105** in this embodiment. FIG. **3** is a diagram showing an example of a display mode of the items of information to be selectively displayed on the display device **105** in this embodiment. In FIG. **3**, the large item of information displayed in the center is specified as information **300**. As described heretofore, the x, y or z-dimensional relation criterion is determined by which of the parameters corresponding to X, Y or Z included in the item of information selected as the specified information **300** differs in value, and thus one of the dimensional relation criteria is selected as a selected relation criterion.

[**0084**] The other items of information, other than the specified information, relating to the specified information **300** via the selected relation criterion are displayed aligned on a selection axis **310**. Items of information **311+** and **311−**, which are aligned on the selection axis **310**, are respectively larger and smaller than the specified information **300** by one in a value of a parameter corresponding to the selected relation criterion, and items of information **312+** and **312−** are respectively larger and smaller than the specified information **300** by two in a value of a parameter corresponding to the selected relation criterion. The items of information **311+** and **311−**, which are closer in parameter value to the specified information **300**, are displayed larger than the items of information **312+** and **312−**. Also, of items of information aligned on the selection axis **310**, items of information differing from the specified information **300** by three or more in a value of a parameter corresponding to the selected relation criterion are not displayed on the display device **105**.

[**0085**] Other items of information relating to the specified information **300** by the other relation criteria, other than the selected relation criterion, are displayed aligned on a non-selection axis for each of the relation criteria. Items of information **321+** and **321−**, which are aligned on a non-selection axis **320**, are respectively larger and smaller than the specified information **300** by one in a value of a parameter corresponding to a relation criterion other than the selected relation criterion. Items of information **322+** and **322−** are respectively larger and smaller than the specified information **300** by two in a value of a relation criterion corresponding to the selected relation criterion. The items of information **321+** and **321−**, which are closer in parameter value to the specified information **300**, are displayed larger than the items of information **322+** and **322−**. Also, items of information aligned on the non-selection axis **320** differing from the specified information **300** by three or more in a value of a parameter, corresponding to a relation criterion other than the selected relation criterion, are not displayed on the display device **105**. Items of information **331+**, **331−**, **332+** and **332−**, which are aligned on a non-selection axis **330**, are also similar in configuration to the items of information aligned on the non-selection axis **320**.

[**0086**] The selection axis **310** and the non-selection axes **320** are not necessarily displayed on the display device **105**, as long as they are recognized by the user. For processing purposes, it is not necessary that the selection axis **310** and the non-selection axes **320** and **330** are recognized by the CPU **101**. That is, an axis on which items of information relating to the specified information **300**, via the selected relation criterion, are apparently recognized to be aligned is the selection axis **310**. Also, an axis on which items of information relating to the specified information **300**, via each of the other relation criterion, other than the selected relation criterion, are apparently recognized to be aligned are the non-selection axes **320**, **330**.

[**0087**] In the event that the y-dimensional relation criterion becomes the selected relation criterion (in the case of, for example, FIG. **3**), other items of information relating to the specified information **300**, via the x-dimensional relation criterion, are displayed aligned on the non-selection axis **320**. Also, other items of information relating to the specified information **300**, via the z-dimensional relation criterion, are displayed as being aligned on the non-selection axis **330**. In the event that the z-dimensional relation criterion becomes the selected relation criterion, other items of information related to the specified information **300**, which are